



28-3

~~28-3~~

ALUMNI LIBRARY,
 THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,
 PRINCETON, N. J.

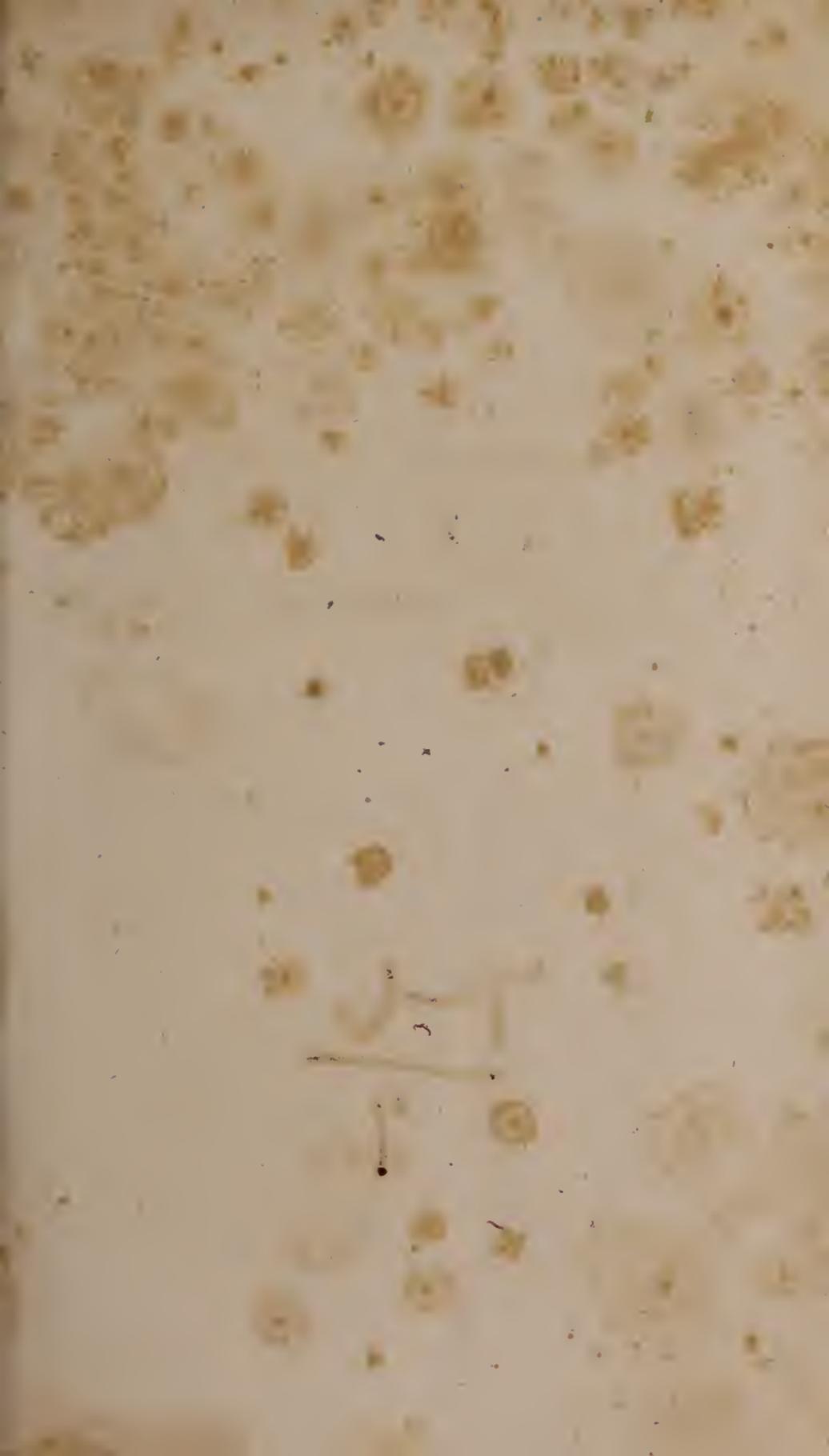
Case,	I
Shelf,	7
Book, No.	

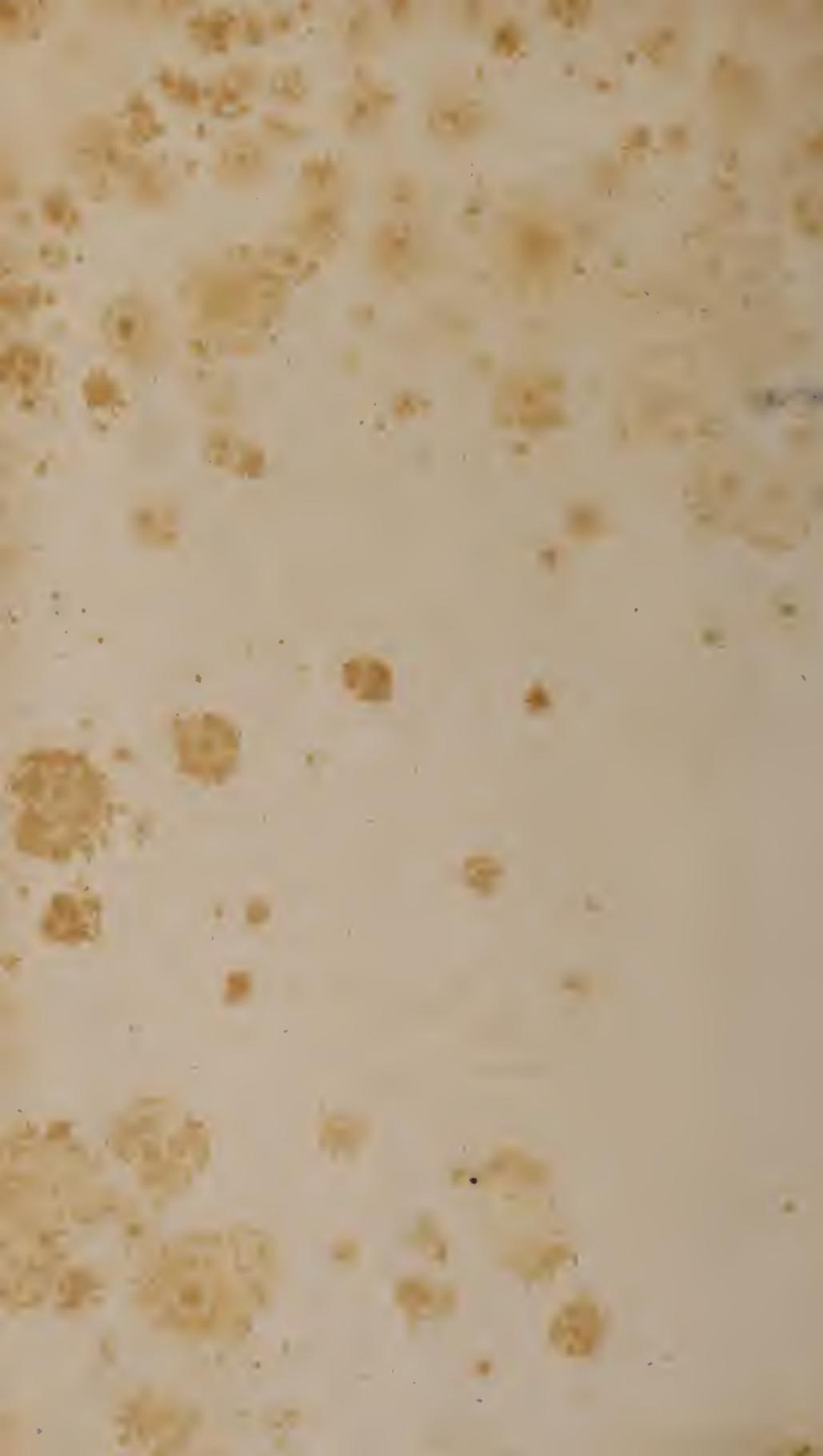
ry
n
P.

7-6

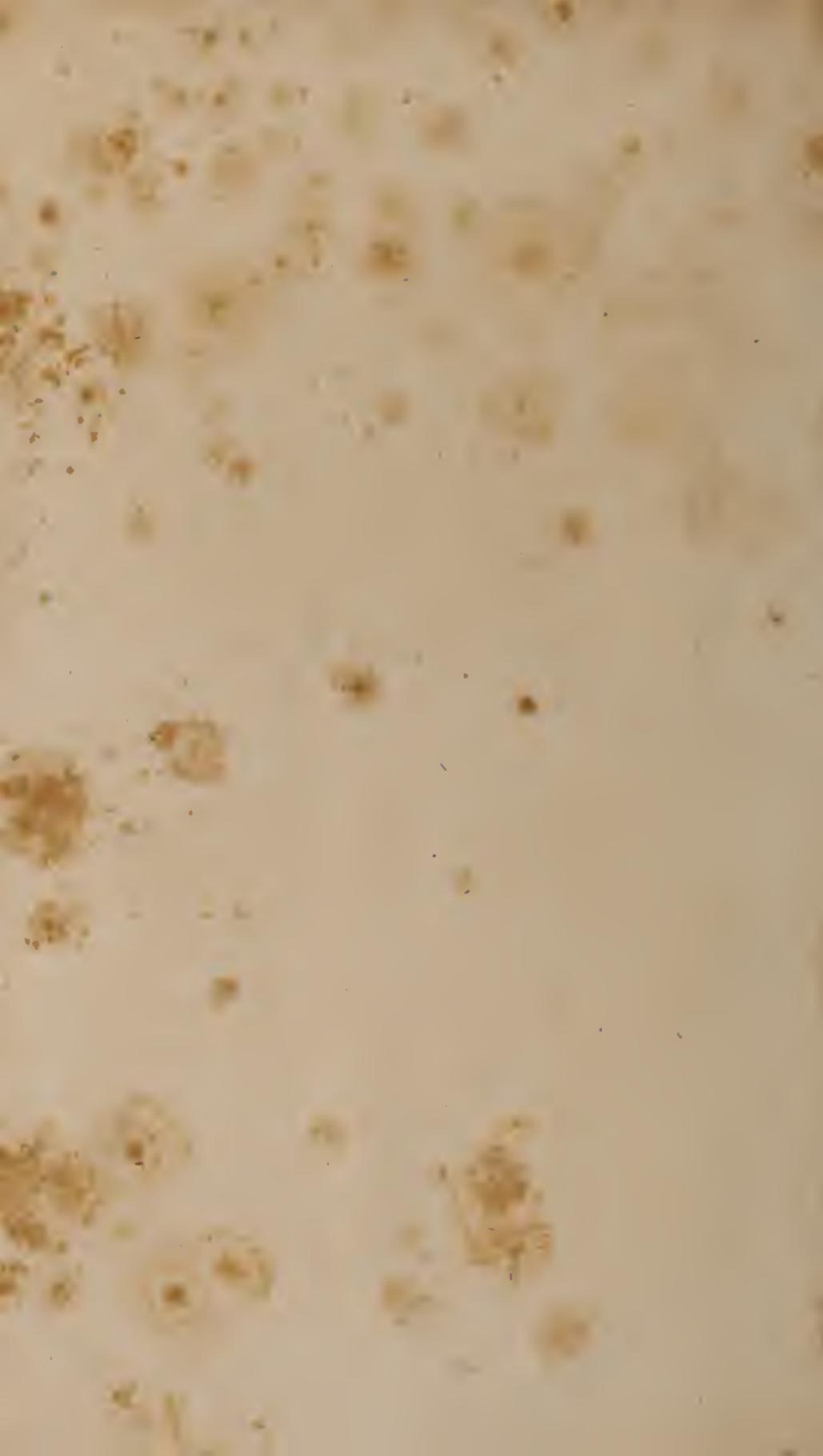
 9

SCC
 8628









✓
THE
AFRICAN REPOSITORY,

AND

COLONIAL JOURNAL.

VOL. IV.

Published by order of the Managers of
THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

THE PROFITS ARISING FROM THIS WORK, ARE DEVOTED TO THE
CAUSE OF THE SOCIETY.

Washington:
1829.

JAMES C. DUNN, PRINTER AND PUBLISHER; GEORGETOWN, D. C.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

1950

RECEIVED

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TO THE FOURTH VOLUME.

	<i>Page.</i>
Abduhl Rabbahman, the Moorish Prince, - - -	77, 243, 379, 380
Anthony Benezet, - - - - -	61
Africa, - - - - -	289, 321, 354
Voice from - - - - -	25
Missions to - - - - -	27
by W. B. Tappan, - - - - -	189
Expedition to - - - - -	253
African Mission School, - - - - -	186, 193, 375
Teak and Indigo, - - - - -	239
Africans, Park's testimony in favour of civilizing them, - - -	76
Address by Wm. M. Blackford, - - - - -	73
of the Managers of the Con. Society, - - - - -	116
of Executive Committee of the African Mission School, - - -	193
by Wm. B. Peabody, - - - - -	225
by Mr. Key, - - - - -	298
of Rockbridge Society, - - - - -	273
Annual Meeting of the American Col. Society, - - - - -	285, 317, 348, 360
Contributions, - - - - -	32, 64, 96, 128, 159, 190, 253, 287
Communications, - - - - -	305, 734, 319, 552, 383
Crisis, - - - - -	38
Candid acknowledgment of Error, - - - - -	376
Death of Dr. William Thornton, - - - - -	31
of Rev. Jacob Oson, - - - - -	283
of Mr. Ashmun, - - - - -	214, 287
Dahomy, account of - - - - -	145
Extracts from Correspondence, - - - - -	90, 236
Emancipation and Colonization, - - - - -	251
Gerrit Smith, Esq. (his plan promoted) - - - - -	30, 95, 185, 252, 270, 379
Good devised, - - - - -	378
July, Fourth of - - - - -	93, 159, 317
Kentucky State Society, - - - - -	351
Laing (Major), Fernando Po, &c. - - - - -	158
Ladies' Association, - - - - -	285
Colonization Society, - - - - -	350
Liberia, latest from - - - - -	14, 40, 82, 87, 209, 380
Letters from - - - - -	234
Expedition to - - - - -	318, 349
Coffee from - - - - -	318
Letter from a Gentleman in South Carolina, - - - - -	60
Matthew Carey, Esq. - - - - -	270
Rev. Dr Blumhardt, - - - - -	296
Gen. Lafayette, - - - - -	349
Legacies, Mr. Burr's - - - - -	93
Liberality, Masonic - - - - -	62
remarkable - - - - -	185
Missions to Africa, - - - - -	27
Missionaries, Swiss - - - - -	241
Nicolson's (Captain) Testimony, - - - - -	95

	<i>Page.</i>
Note, Notice, - - - - -	187
Niger, Theories respecting the - - - - -	106
Remarks on the course and termination of the - - - - -	151
Omens of success, - - - - -	138
Park's Testimony, - - - - -	76
Plan for the establishment of State Col. Societies, - - - - -	372
Pecuniary wants of the Society, - - - - -	224
Postscript, - - - - -	63
Report of the select Committee to Congress, - - - - -	51
of Managers of the Lynchburg Society, - - - - -	171
of Vermont Society, - - - - -	312
Religion, the power of - - - - -	231
Review of Mission from Cape Coast Castle to Ashantee, 1, 53, 65, 97, 129	
of Report of the Committee of Foreign relations in the Senate, to whom were referred sundry petitions and memorials in relation to the Col. Society, - - - - -	161, 257
of Dr. Wainwright's Discourse on the occasion of forming the African Mission School—and of Address of the Executive Committee of that School, - - - - -	193
of an Address by Wm. B. Peabody, - - - - -	225
of Mr. Tazewell's Report, - - - - -	330
Resolutions of Gen. Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, - - - - -	126
Ship for the Society, Plan for purchasing a - - - - -	377
Society, Connecticut Colonization - - - - -	116
African Mission School - - - - -	186, 193, 575
Rockbridge Col. - - - - -	273
Virginia, Col. - - - - -	307
Vermont Col. - - - - -	312
Kentucky Col. - - - - -	351
Societies, To Auxiliary - - - - -	94, 159
Auxiliary - - - - -	185
Plan for the establishment of State Colonization - - - - -	372
Serious Considerations, - - - - -	381
Transportation Plan, or Good devised, - - - - -	578
To our Friends, - - - - -	29
Auxiliaries and Friends, - - - - -	94
and Agents, - - - - -	159

THE
AFRICAN REPOSITORY,
AND
COLONIAL JOURNAL.

VOL. IV. **SEPTEMBER, 1828.** No. 7.

Review.

A Discourse on the occasion of forming the African Mission School Society, delivered in Christ Church, Hartford, (Con.) Aug. 10, 1828. By J. M. WAINWRIGHT, D. D., Rector of Grace Church, New York.

Address of the Executive Committee of the African Mission School Society, together with the Record of the Proceedings at the formation of said Society. Hartford: 1828.

THIS recently organized Institution, the plan and objects of which are fully developed in the pamphlets before us, we regard as of special promise to the cause of African improvement. We have long been of the opinion, that the Colony of Liberia has no want more pressing, than that of pious and well educated men of colour, to manage its schools; call forth its energies; and to elevate the intellectual and moral character of the general mass of the community. Individuals, there are, in our Colony, of sterling good sense and much practical wisdom; but perhaps not one who has been thoroughly educated, and is therefore capable of conducting forward the youth to much eminence in literary or scientific attainments. Schools there are, to which all the children have access; and the fidelity of the teachers and the

utility of their instructions, are manifest; though nothing more is, or can be attempted, than to impart the rudiments of knowledge.

Nor are there generally throughout the Colony, any adequate means of religious instruction. In Monrovia, it is true, there are several sensible and pious preachers, by whose labours and example much good has been effected, and under the Divine blessing, the moral and religious character of the settlement been remarkably preserved and improved; yet, the other villages, we fear, enjoy but few advantages for the acquisition of Christian knowledge. Such we know was the opinion of our late lamented Agent, Mr. Ashmun, who never lost an opportunity of urging home upon his countrymen the necessity of sending to the Colony *able teachers*, and especially *enlightened, devoted Missionaries* without the "*moral effects*" (we adopt his own language,) "of whose exertions, all that has been—all that can be accomplished, even *with the national patronage*—must still leave the work incomplete, and short of our early hopes."

But our departed friend expressed his feelings on this subject in still stronger language; language, which we trust will be regarded by all that love the cause for which he died. And surely the testimony of an individual so candid and intelligent, (who had resided for more than six years in a small community, far distant from civilized and christian nations, and exposed daily to the contagious influence of vice among the native tribes, a community, the very existence of which has depended upon the order, sobriety, industry and union of its members,) to the inseparable connexion of Christianity with the best interests of society, must have no little weight with every well informed and thoughtful mind. The paper from which we make the following extracts was written but a few months ago; and could our friend speak to us from his tomb, we believe he would but reiterate the sentiments which he has here expressed.

"Considered in their own nature, and separately from their sanctifying efficacy, and the promised co-operation of the Divine Spirit, if the doctrines of the Saviour, and the ministry of Christian teachers can be so considered, these are, of all the means of arousing human nature, and setting the heart and understand-

ing—body and soul in action, beyond comparison the most certain, and the most effectual.

“How it is in other parts of the world I have only heard and read. But in this Colony I have *seen* the direct and inseparable connection of Christianity, taking in its doctrines, its worship, and its practical fruits—with all that is stable, all that is patriotic, all that is mentally and morally improving, all that is exalting to human nature—in a word, all that is good and excellent among us.

“There is no room for speculation on this point—no room for reasoning. Premises and conclusion are both embodied in one and the same obvious fact. *There* is a pious family—and there stands a firm pillar of the Colony. Industry, intelligence, order, competency and peace, are its characteristics. *There* is a family without religion; I have only to reverse the characteristics of the first, and that family is described.

“We have tried the effects of schools. These are by no means so well conducted as they should be; still their influence is salutary. But these effects are partial and inadequate, operating only on the child, while the parents are left unprofited. But such as worthily sustain the office of the ministry, come with an authority which none dare wholly to despise. They come with motives which all who must die, all who know what a guilty conscience is, all who believe they have a God to account to, and a soul to save, are obliged to feel.

“Let then the Colony be a parish. Let the minister visit and instruct and labour from house to house. Let him have no other engagements in the Colony—no other work to divert his attention from his spiritual charge. Above sectarian prejudices and feelings, let him be equally at home among Christians of every name. A man of discrimination, education, and humility; let him employ the whole various compass of means submitted to his selection in the Book whence he derives his commission; to obviate the prejudices, obtain the confidence, conciliate the affections, instruct the ignorance, correct the errors, amend the morals, and save the souls of all. Such a man might indeed meet with trials and discouragements, might realize a success at first, by no means commensurate with his wishes and his labours. But he would sow seed which must grow.”

So intent indeed was Mr. Ashmun upon securing missionary efforts to the Colony, that he did not hesitate even to recommend that some able and devoted minister should be sent out under the patronage of the Board of Managers.

“I beg respectfully but most pressingly (he observes) to recommend, as in my opinion the only means of rendering the Colony what it was intended to be made, a truly christian and civilized asylum of an outcast race of men, the immediate engagement of at least one laborious Christian Minister, of the most respectable qualifications; but above all, of the most ardent piety and untiring zeal.

“If it be doubted for a moment, whether such an appointment be consistent with the simple and declared object of the Colonization Society, the only question to be determined is, whether it be not absolutely necessary as a means of accomplishing that object? Is the simple and unique object of the Society accomplished by only landing emigrants on the African Coast, without regarding their future situation? I have trespassed farther than I fear I should have done in the length of these remarks, but I have done it under a feeling of most sacred obligation to report what I sincerely believed to be the most urgent of all the actual necessities of the Colony, where they ought to be known, and where, if from any quarter, those necessities are to be supplied. None of us who are now active in the work, can act or labour long. And to do seasonably and effectually what little Divine Providence permits us to attempt, is no doubt the way to accomplish the most in the end. It is in these views that this paper is submitted; and I cannot more appropriately bring it to a close, than by humbly supplicating the Almighty in his infinite wisdom and goodness, to supply the means of accomplishing a work so agreeable to the great ends of his moral government, which his word assures us is to build up on earth an universal empire of holiness, of which the foundations are to be laid in the hearts of all mankind.”

This it must be remembered, was penned before the excellent writer had been made acquainted with the determination of various missionary associations, both in this country and Europe, to occupy and improve the wide field for Christian labour opened to them in Liberia.

Such determinations, and the energy with which they have been, or are about to be executed, has been deemed by the Board of Managers a sufficient reason for abstaining from any measures to effect the purpose so earnestly and impressively enforced by Mr. Ashmun, even had their opinions been altogether concurrent with his, and their funds sufficient to justify an appropriation for the object. The preceding extract, however, can hardly fail, we think, to produce a general conviction that the introduction of enlightened Christian Teachers is an object of essential importance, viewed simply in its bearings upon the temporal interests of the settlements of Liberia. But our Colony has been planted for purposes of more elevated import than any the effects of which are limited to time. Many who have laboured and died to establish it on deep and sure foundations, have brought to their work the strength of faith and the ardour of intense devotion. The Colonists have seen in their example the value of religious principle, and been urged by their precepts to hold all other considerations in subordination to its authority. They have been taught, truly, to regard Religion as their principle concern, and that to extend its influence is a chief duty of life.

But if efforts are demanded to supply Liberia with pious men of education, the condition of the native tribes in its vicinity offers a motive for such efforts not less imperative. To these tribes a door of access is fully opened through the Colony.— They are prepared to give a kind reception to missionaries, and to place their children under instruction. Among these are no well constructed systems of superstition, ancient and powerful, to oppose the progress of the Gospel; and the only obstacles to remove, are such as are inseparable from the habits of uncivilized men. Nor is the field for Christian exertion wanting either in populousness or extent. We see no reason why the doctrines of our holy faith may not (if faithful able teachers can be found to inculcate them) be propagated rapidly from tribe to tribe, until a large portion of the population of Africa shall experience their efficacy and practically illustrate the purity and excellence of their influence.

And while we are far from having decided that many white men will not be required to accomplish the illumination and regeneration of Africa, we candidly say, that the imminent dangers to

which such persons are exposed by a residence in that country, seems to indicate it as the will of Heaven, that men of colour should be educated and sent forth without delay to this glorious work. *These* are, doubtless, destined to be the principal agents in communicating the arts of civilization and the ever-blessed Gospel, to the long neglected and degraded tribes of Africa.

What friend then of humanity or religion, will not hail with delight, the formation of the *African Mission School Society*?— It comes before the public sustained by many of the most respectable names in our country. We rejoice to see that it is under the special patronage of the Episcopal Church, that the venerable Bishops are its Patrons, and that its Board of Directors is made up of distinguished gentlemen from many different states, and who would do honour to any institution. We are informed that the Rev. Dr. WAINWRIGHT, (from whose excellent Discourse we propose to make some extracts,) has been mainly instrumental in exciting that interest which has resulted in the establishment of this Society. Should its operations be well conducted, and its success equal our hopes, reflections far more valuable than human applause, must be the treasure of him who has given an impulse to public charity in favour of African Education, and moved that a Seminary should be founded for this object; to the support of which, the public liberality may be judiciously directed.

We regret that we cannot give to the Discourse of Dr. Wainwright, that extended notice which it so well merits. The text is that beautiful prediction of the Prophet, (*Isaih* xi. 9.) THEY SHALL NOT HURT NOR DESTROY IN ALL MY HOLY MOUNTAIN: FOR THE EARTH SHALL BE FULL OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE LORD, AS THE WATERS COVER THE SEA.

Dr. Wainwright commences with some remarks to show that if the "Doctrine of human perfectability" as maintained by the "visionary and extravagant," is to be discarded, so likewise are the "cold and heartless views" of those who would persuade us that men must always remain what they now are, and that we are to expect no improvement in the moral condition of the world.— Abandoning the "dreams and speculations of philosophers," he goes directly to the word of God, and finds there "frequent intimations of a happier and better condition of the world, at some

future period, when peace and virtue shall universally prevail." It is not deemed necessary, nor indeed possible to say, precisely, to what degree of knowledge and virtue individuals or society may be advanced—to decide whether or not, there may be some exceptions to the general improvement; or how soon this glorious revolution in the character of men is to be effected—the doctrine that a great change for the better is to take place; that it has already commenced; accords entirely with our experience as well as the testimony of God.

And here we cannot but observe, how, that while Dr. Wainwright has expressed opinions agreeing on many subjects with those adopted by the distinguished Author of an admirable address (lately published in South Carolina,) "On the Character and Objects of Science;" on one, that of the comparative merits of ancient and modern literature, his views widely differ. He remarks:

"Now we must acknowledge, that in some respects the world has not improved. It is hazardous enough, to claim for the literature of modern days an *equality* even with that of ancient times; but to say that our poetry or eloquence surpasses that of Grecian or Roman fame, is madness.— And when we look at the works of art, and human ingenuity and labour, the ruins of Persepolis, the pyramids of Egypt, the simple majesty and beauty of the Parthenon, or the sublime grandeur of some great Cathedral, raised, in Gothic times, as a temple to the Most High; we must acknowledge, that the labours of modern days sink into comparative nothingness."

Mr. Grimke, on the contrary, is of opinion, that

"Bossuet, Bourdaloue and Massillon; Pitt, Sheridan, Fox, Erskine and Ganning, fear no comparison if liberal and candid, with Demosthenes, Pericles, Socrates and Cicero. Schlegel has ranked Shakspeare above all the dramatists of antiquity; while the critical judgment and accomplished taste of the Edinburgh Review, has styled Milton the first of Poets. *Whenever the world shall judge boldly and independently, candidly, liberally, the decision must be in favour of the masters in literature and science, who have arisen since the Fifteenth Century.* Whether in abstruse and comprehensive, or in refined and elegant speculation; in profound, energetic, logical reasoning; in powerful, commanding, persuasive eloquence; in the intellectual and imaginative poetry; in the descriptive and pathetic; in practical wisdom; moral, international, or political; civil social, or domestic; in those arts which employ, while they improve and bless the people; in a

word, *in all that makes man industrious and useful, virtuous and happy, and prepares him for the service of God, his fellow men, and of posterity—* if with a view to these things we contemplate the great men, who have arisen since the year 1500, we must acknowledge them unrivalled by the ancients.”

We have marked a part of the last quotation, because in the sentiments there expressed, the author of the Discourse entirely concurs.

“When were the rights of man so well understood; when were the principles of a sound philosophy so universally disseminated; when was there such a vast proportion of intelligent and thinking beings; when was there ever such active exertion to remove moral evil, and to accomplish, as far as possible, the happiness of every individual of the human family? Never. We have fallen, my brethren, upon happy times,—unspeakably happy, compared with any that have before existed. The idea of a former age of peace, and happiness, and wisdom, called the golden, is all a foolish imagination. There never has been an age, (great as present evils are) yet there never has been an age as wise, as peaceful, or as happy as the present. And why may not future ages have successively the same advantage over those which preceded them? There cannot be a retrograde motion now, because we are improving upon right principles, and we have only just begun to improve.

“Let me here introduce a few observations from the pen of an able christian philosopher of the present day. ‘There are three agents which will soon be entwined with the issues of all human affairs, and are the very hinges upon which the moral world will speedily turn. The three things, in which the present age excels the ancients, are the Inductive Philosophy, Printing and Universal Education. Education and the press have only been employed to purpose, of very late years. Every year they have been making some improvements upon their former efforts; and as these are instruments capable of an indefinite perfectability, and as the art of using will enlarge with the use itself, it only requires to increase the number of printing presses, schools, and teachers, to accelerate to any pitch the rate of improvement. These two latter discoveries fit in together, and mutually render each other available. Printing, by its unlimited multiplication of copies, supplying materials for universal education; and universal education creating a demand for copies that proceeds without any assignable term. These are the two great means to bring about the moral revolution of the world; and these two powers are gradually moulding governments, and stamping them with the form and pressure of the age.’”*

* James Douglas on Missions.

Dr. Wainwright proceeds to show, that if the physician, the civilian, the merchant, the agriculturist reasonably expect improvements in their several professions or occupations, the Christian may with no less propriety look for greater and wider results than have been realized from the gospel. Observe the operation of Christian faith upon some individual, and you may conclude, with entire confidence, that its general prevalence would prove of the utmost benefit to mankind. "Suppose that several Christian nations were to act consistently with their profession, should we be so disturbed by wars, and so often behold garments rolled in blood?" And why should not all this come to pass? Consider what has been effected by the art of printing and the power of steam. And shall we, Christians, expect less wonders to be accomplished by the Gospel? Let us hear what has been done, within a very short period, in the Islands of the South Pacific.

"The intelligence of the past year enables us to say, definitively and positively, that the influence of christian missions has driven idolatry entirely from *twenty-one* islands. Their inhabitants are no more alarmed by the noise of war, nor by the shriek of victims immolated on the altars of demons; and they have been taught to read and write, and to make provision for the necessities, the decencies, and the comforts of life. Some thousands have been introduced into the christian church upon a credible profession of piety. When one island had received the gospel, its inhabitants exerted themselves to send it to another. The intelligence of the past year states, that a missionary society of one group, and that not the largest, contributed in a single year, of the productions of the country, to the value of more than a thousand dollars; that thirty pious natives had gone as missionary teachers to islands and a people, which to them were strange and foreign; and that thirteen missionary stations are occupied by native missionaries alone.'

"Now, my brethren, in the contemplation of this, and multitudes of similar descriptions from all quarters of the globe, may we not feel encouraged to place a full trust in the words of prophecy? But what do I say? Trust in the words of prophecy! Dare we distrust them! Whose words are they? Whose spirit pronounced them? Whose veracity is staked upon them? Whose power is put forth to accomplish their execution? No, my brethren, we dare not distrust the words of prophecy. As surely as the waters of the ocean reach from pole to pole, and from continent to conti-

ment, so surely will the knowledge of the Lord make its way to all kindreds and nations and people; and wheresoever it makes its way, so surely will it promote peace on earth, and good will towards men."

Inspired with such sentiments, the respected author of this Discourse, urges all "joyfully and energetically to put their hands to every work which can help forward the civilizing and christianizing of the world." The objects of the AFRICAN MISSION SCHOOL SOCIETY he regards as eminently recommended, both on the ground of their practicableness and utility. The following observations are equally candid, liberal, and just.

"Africa I regard as a region of peculiar interest to us, and one which presents to us peculiar obligations to care for its moral and religious improvement. We are indeed separated from it by an immense ocean, but we have taken its children from their homes, we have held them in bondage, we have obtained large portions of our temporal comforts and luxuries from the labour of their hands. We are all, to a certain degree, involved in the guilt of injustice towards this much suffering people. I say *we*, for I cannot on this point make a line of distinction. I would indeed on every point forever forget the terms north and south, as terms of national distinction, but most assuredly upon this. For here we are under a like condemnation. Slavery once polluted the now free and untrammelled states of New England. And why has it not remained the curse of our land?—Because we were wiser, or loved freedom better, than our southern brethren? No, but because the climate of New England was healthful, and the white man could labour beneath its sun, and no pestilence drove him from its marshes.

"Let us not then boast of our exemption from responsibility, and from whatever may be the criminality of possessing a slave population. Let us rather look upon the cause as one of common interest, and the question how we are to alleviate the evil, as one of common obligation. Let us have no criminations and recriminations. We are brethren of one family, and the faith of Christ commands us to bear one another's burdens. Let all animosity subside, and let us address ourselves to that question, as it presents itself to me, of awful importance, how we are to be preserved from the effects of the gradual increase of our coloured and slave population."

But what is to be done? Immediate and universal emancipation will find few, if any advocates, among judicious and reflecting men.

"The colonizing of Africa is our only hope. It is the only means by

which a drain is to be made to carry off our surplus coloured population.— This measure has received the sanction of the wise and good throughout our country. It matters not that some have entered into it with selfish views, and that they would prosecute the colonizing of free people of colour from the southern states, in order to secure a more effectual power over the slaves. This has been urged as an argument against the Colonization Society by many in our part of the country. But very inconclusively, as appears to me. I doubt not that there are selfish and ignoble beings, who are actuated by such motives, and who have no true love of liberty—and no regard to the condition of the poor African. But what matters this, so as the project itself be a good one, and be calculated to effect the object we desire. It should not suffer, because others enter into it with baser motives than our own.”

And can any thing be more evident than the truth and importance of the following remarks of our author, in behalf of the MISSION SCHOOL SOCIETY? If there is *one* which we would wish qualified, it is that in which allusion is made to the destructive influence of the African climate upon the constitutions of white men, and their unfitness (in consequence of their colour) for useful exertions among the native tribes. That the danger to the life of the white man who fixes his residence in Africa is great, we admit; and that among the remote tribes of the interior, his complexion might render him an object of disgust or suspicion, is possible; yet, we have seen white men in health after having lived for many years at Sierra Leone, and we are confident that superior intelligence and influence is generally attributed to such, among the natives of the coast. Whether, therefore, the propagation of Christianity in Africa without delay, is not an object, for which some white missionaries, able and devoted, might commendably expose themselves to the dangers of the climate, is a question which seems to us to merit, at least, consideration. Still we would lose no time in preparing young men of colour for this work, which we doubt not, is to be effected principally by their exertions. Sincerely do we hope and pray, that our concluding extract from this eloquent Discourse, so honourable to the head and heart of its highly esteemed author, may excite new interest in the cause of African Education, and secure to the *African Mission School* that liberal support which it requires and deserves.

“But to make colonization effectual, it is not sufficient that the arts of civilized society be carried to a new country: the Gospel is also needed.— I will not insult your understandings and your religious principles by arguing this point. You know, better than I can declare to you, that civilization without christianity is valueless—nay, you know that the former cannot subsist without the latter. To be civilized, a country must have religion, and this religion must be christianity. Now where is Africa, dark, degraded, ignorant Africa; where is it to obtain this blessed gift? How shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent, and how shall they be sent except by our exertions? All this has been felt—the appeal has been made—funds have been raised and appropriated—and still greater sums could be collected for this noble purpose. But, alas, we cannot use what we now have—we cannot obtain missionaries. The want is universal. It is felt sensibly in Great Britain as well as in our own country. But a short time since, letters were addressed to different persons from the Church Missionary Society, stating that they had looked anxiously to this country for missionaries, catechists, and schoolmasters—they wished for pious, intelligent, and active men of colour for this purpose, and stood prepared to give them an ample support. The white man, as we are convinced from melancholy proof, cannot endure that climate; and besides, his colour, which is associated with the idea of disease, unfits him for usefulness among most of the tribes. The call then is loud for African Missionaries throughout the christian world. Now, to supply this deficiency so universally and so deeply felt, the African Mission School Society has been projected. It is not intended to interfere with any Society already established; nor to take upon itself, in any degree, the direction of missionary enterprises. Its sole object is to select and prepare instruments for them. Its hope is, in the present year, to obtain a few pious and intelligent young men of colour, and to educate them with reference to the propagation of the Gospel in Africa. The leading object in such a plan of education should be, to fit them to become teachers of the Word of God in simplicity and purity. Learned and accomplished theologians are not needed for this work; but pious, humble, devoted men, deeply instructed in the Gospel scheme of salvation, and familiar with the oracles of truth in our English version—such will make useful and effective missionaries. In addition to this, we would give them a knowledge of the first principles of the useful sciences and arts; viz botany, mineralogy, surveying, civil and municipal law, and political economy. Nor should the attainment of an adequate manual dexterity, in the performance of agricultural and mechanical labour, be neglected. These qualifications may be of great importance in aiding the native tribes in their approaches to civilization, and in gaining a desirable influence over them.

“If, by the present undertaking, we can prepare a few individuals each year, who can be rendered useful in the great work of renovating Africa,

we should think that our society has occupied ground, at present vacant, with a structure, which, however humble, promises to be eminently serviceable to the cause of civilization and christianity

“As a citizen of this country, I can look at Liberia, and rejoice at the beneficial influence which the prosperity of that colony is destined to exercise upon our coloured population. As a citizen of the world, I can rejoice that another continent will soon be added to the domain of civilization. But as a disciple of Christ, I can infinitely more rejoice that the gospel is there advancing. I see it carried swiftly along the coast of Africa; I see it penetrating the remotest deserts and forests of that benighted continent.— I see it demolishing cruel and degrading superstitions, overthrowing the altars of Moloch, and carrying in its progress, peace and virtue and happiness, to regions, where brutal ignorance and vice now bear sway. In this view, I can almost forget my abhorrence of slavery. I can almost feel reconciled to the thought, that our forefathers unjustly and cruelly tore these hapless people from their homes, and brought them to our shores. If we can send them back with the Gospel of Christ, and thus give them, as a reward for their extorted labours and long continued suffering, the pearl of great price, our guilt will be lessened, and our condemnation will be taken away.”

From the address of the Executive Committee of the AFRICAN MISSION SCHOOL SOCIETY, it appears that measures have been taken to put this school into immediate operation. A suitable building has been engaged—the Rector and Teacher have been appointed; and the Committee are prepared to receive applications for pupils. The school will be opened about the 20th of the present month.

There may, perhaps, be some objection to the place (Hartford, Connecticut,) selected for this school, on account of its distance to the north, though in every other respect it has peculiar advantages. We understand, however, that it may, should it on the whole be deemed expedient, be ultimately removed to one of the middle states. We insert the Constitution, Officers, and By-Laws of the Society, that our readers may have a full view of this very interesting Institution.

Constitution of the African Mission School Society.

ARTICLE I. This Association shall be called the *African Mission School Society.*

ART. II. Its objects shall be, to establish and maintain a School for the instruction of suitable persons of African extraction, with referencoe to their becoming Missionaries, Catechists and Schoolmasters in Africa, under the direction of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

ART. III. The Society shall consist of persons paying annually the sum of two dollars; or the sum of twenty dollars at one time, which shall constitute them members for life.

ART. IV. The President of the Society shall be the Bishop of the Diocess in which the School is established; and in his absence, the chair may be taken by any other Bishop who may be present.

ART. V. There shall be three Vice-Presidents, whose duty it shall be to preside, when neither of the Bishops shall be present, and who *ex-officio* shall be directors.

ART. VI. Twenty-four Directors, half clergymen and half laymen, shall be elected at the annual meeting. Any person, paying the sum of fifty dollars, at any one time, shall have the privileges of a Director.

ART. VII. The Bishops of the Church shall be *ex-officio* Patrons; and all other persons who shall pay \$100 at one time. They shall have a right to be present, and to vote at all meetings of the Society, or of the Board of Directors.

ART. VIII. A Treasurer and Secretary shall be chosen at the annual meeting, and shall be resident in the place where the school is situated.

ART. IX. There shall be annually chosen by the Board of Directors, ten persons, six of whom shall be resident in the place where the school is established; and these, together with the President, the Secretary and Treasurer, shall constitute the Executive Committee. Of this Committee, five shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

ART. X. The Board of Directors shall meet annually on the day before the first Thursday in August, at such time and place as the President may designate; and shall make report of their proceedings to the annual meeting of the Society, which shall be held on the evening of the following day.—The Board of Directors shall also meet during the session of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, at such time and place as may be designated by the President; to which body, an account of the proceedings of the Society shall be rendered triennially. At all meetings of the Board, nine shall constitute a quorum.

ART. XI. The Executive Committee shall carry into execution the ordinances of the Board of Directors, and shall have power, during the recess of the Board, to perform acts and make regulations, to which the Board is competent. It shall meet at the call of the President, and in his absence, at the call of three of its members. Its proceedings shall be submitted to the Board at every meeting of the same.

ART. XII. The Board of Directors shall enact By-Laws for their own

regulation and that of the Executive Committee. They shall also appoint the Rector and Teachers of the School, and prescribe the course of study.

Resolved, On motion, that the meeting proceed to appoint the officers named in the above Constitution:

Whereupon, the following gentlemen were appointed:

Patrons, ex-officio.

THE BISHOPS OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

President, ex-officio.

RIGHT REVEREND T. C. BROWNELL, *Bishop of the Diocese of Connecticut.*

REV. J. M. WAINWRIGHT, D. D., of N. Y.	} <i>Vice-Presidents.</i>
HIS HONOUR T. L. WINTHROP, of Boston.	
STEPHEN WARREN, Esq. of Troy, N. Y.	

Directors.

REV. N. S. WHEATON,	GEORGE BRINLEY, Esq.
— HARRY CROSWELL,	DR. J. C. WARREN,
— G. W. DOANE,	EDWARD A. NEWTON, Esq.
— ALONZO POTTER,	PETER A. JAY, Esq.
— DR. MILNOR,	PETER KEAN, Esq.
— GEORGE UFFOLD,	HORACE BINNEY, Esq.
— DR. TURNER,	J. B. ECCLESTON, Esq.
— L. S. IVES,	FRANCIS S. KEY, Esq.
— DR. MONTGOMERY,	SIMON GREENLEAF, Esq.
— DR. WYATT,	JAMES BOWDOIN, Esq.
— DR. MEAD,	HENRY ROGERS, Esq.
— DR. GADSDEN,	SAMUEL SLATER, Esq.

S. H. HUNTINGTON, Esq., *Secretary.* | CYPRIAN NICHOLS, Esq., *Treasurer.*

The meeting then adjourned.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the African Mission School Society, held in Christ Church, Hartford, on the evening of the 7th day of Aug. 1828, the following gentlemen were appointed the Executive Committee:

Executive Committee of the African Mission School Society.

REV. N. S. WHEATON,	DR. J. SMITH ROGERS,
— DR. WAINWRIGHT,	C. SIGOURNEY, Esq.
— HORATIO POTTER,	S. TUDOR, Esq.
— G. W. DOANE,	W. H. INLAY, Esq.
— H. HUMPHREYS,	E. A. NEWTON, Esq.

S. H. HUNTINGTON, Esq., was appointed Secretary to the Committee.

On motion, *Resolved*, that the Executive Committee be empowered to prepare a code of By-laws, to be presented to the B'd. at its next annual meeting.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be governed by said code of By-laws until the next annual meeting of the Board.

Resolved. That the Rev. N. S. Wheaton be, and hereby is, appointed Rector of the African Mission School, for the year ensuing.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee appoint a Teacher, and take measures to collect funds, and to carry said School into operation.

Adjourned.

Pursuant to the above resolutions, the Executive Committee held a meeting on the 11th of August, when they appointed Mr. H. Spencer, Teacher of the School—adopted a code of By-laws, and an Address, which, with extracts from the By-laws, was ordered to be printed, together with the proceedings of the meeting, and of the Board of Directors.

By-Laws for the government of the Executive Committee.

It shall be the duty of the Rector to visit the School once a week, and of the Executive Committee as often as once a month—to inquire into the literary progress, and the religious character and conversation of the pupils.

The Instructor shall reside and lodge in the same house with the pupils, with the privilege of taking his meals elsewhere. He shall also superintend their education, and direct and assist them in their studies according to the plan which shall be prescribed by the Executive Committee.

No pupil shall be admitted into this School except he have attained the age of 18, and can read the English language with facility, and can write, and has acquired some knowledge of the rules of common arithmetic.—He shall also produce to the Executive Committee satisfactory testimonials of his exemplary religious character, and of his possessing such intellectual endowments as will, in all probability, render him useful in the capacity of Missionary, Catechist, or School-master.

The pupils shall be required to board in the house provided for them by the Committee, and to pursue their studies with diligence. They shall be under the immediate care of the Instructor, to whose directions and admonitions they shall pay a due obedience. It is expected that their conduct will not only be orderly and decent on all occasions, but in an eminent degree exemplary, as becomes Christian disciples.

The stated religious exercises of the School shall be daily morning and evening prayer, with reading of the Scriptures, by the Teacher, in the presence of the pupils; all of whom shall be required to attend. They shall also be constant in their attendance on the public services of the Church.

The pupils shall be required to labour at some mechanical or agricultural employment, at least two hours in the day, as the Committee shall direct.

Should it appear to the Executive Committee, after a reasonable trial, that a pupil is disqualified for usefulness in Africa, by a want of piety or of intellectual endowments, they shall have power to dismiss him from the Institution.

Whenever the Committee shall judge any of the pupils qualified for usefulness in Africa, as a Missionary, Catechist, or School-master, they shall give notice thereof to the Executive Committee of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.

From Liberia.

Despatches have arrived from the Colony, by the "All Chance," Capt. Russel, and the Brig Liberia, Captain Sharp, bearing dates up to the 22nd of July, which give very favourable views of the health and prospects of the settlement. In a letter of the 18th of June, the Vice-Agent, Rev. Lott Cary, writes—

"I found it necessary, in order to preserve the frame of the second floors of the Government House, to have the frame and ceiling painted, which is now doing. I have also been obliged to employ another workman to make the blinds, or else leave the house exposed the present season, as — refused to do it under the former contract. On the 13th I visited Millsburg,* to ascertain the prospects of that settlement; and can say with propriety, that according to the quantity of land which the settlers have put under cultivation, they will reap a good and plentiful crop. The Company's crop of rice and cassada is especially promising. The new settlers at that place have done well; having all, with two or three exceptions, built houses, so as to render their families comfortable through the season. They have also each of them a small farm, which I think after a few months will be sufficient to subsist them. But I find from a very particular examination, that we shall be obliged to allow them to draw rations longer than I expected, owing to the great scarcity of country produce, the cassada being so nearly exhausted, that it is, and will be, impossible to obtain, until new crops come in, much to aid our provisions, unless by going some distance into the country. Therefore I think it indispensably necessary, in order to keep the settlers to their farming improvements, to continue their rations longer than I at first intended; as I consider the present too important a crisis to leave them to neglect their improvements, although it may add something to our present expenses.

"The people at Caldwell are getting on better with their farms than with their houses. I think some of them are very slow, notwithstanding I have assisted them in building. The Gun House at Caldwell is done, and at present preparations are

* Mills & Burgess.

making for the Fourth of July. I think that settlement generally, is rapidly advancing in farming, building, and I hope, in industry. Our gun carriages are done; the completion of the iron work alone prevents us from mounting them all immediately. We have four mounted, and I think we shall put them all in complete order by the end of the present week.

“Captain Russel will be able to give something like a fair account of the state of our improvements, as he went with me to visit the settlements on the 13th and 14th, and seemed pleased with the prospect at Millsburg, Caldwell and the Halfway Farms.

Mr. Warner, who has been engaged nearly the whole of the last twelve months on business of negotiating with the native tribes to the leeward, is at present down at Tippicanoe, the place which I mentioned in my former communications, as being a very important section of country, since it would connect our Sesters and Bassa districts together. He is not, however, now engaged in business of negotiation, but only in business of trade.”

In his letter to the lamented Mr. Ashmun, Mr. Cary states—

“Things are nearly as you left them; most of the work that you directed to be done, is nearly accomplished. The plasterers are now at work on the Government House, and with what lime I am having brought down the river, and what shells I am getting, I think we shall succeed.

“The Gun House in Monrovia and the Jail have been done for some weeks; the mounting of the guns will be done this week, if the weather permits.

“The Houses at the Halfway Farms are done; the Gun House at Caldwell would have been done at this time, had not the rain prevented, but I think it will be finished in three or four days. The public farm is doing pretty well. The Millsburg farms are doing very well. I think it would do you good to see that place at this time.

“The Missionaries, although they have been sick, are now, I am happy to inform you, recovered; and at present are able to attend to their business, and I regard them as entirely out of danger.

“I hope we shall be able to remove all the furniture into the new house in two or three weeks.”

June 25th, Mr. Cary writes—

“About three o'clock to day, there appeared three vessels—two brigs and a schooner. The schooner stood into the Roads, and one of the brigs near in, but showed no colours until a shot was fired by Captain Thompson; when she hoisted Spanish colours, and the schooner the same. All their movements appeared so suspicious, that we turned out all our forces to-night.—About eight this evening it was reported that they were standing out of our Roads, and at sunset that the schooner had come to anchor very near the “All Chance,” from Boston, and that the brig which had passed the Cape, had put about and was standing up, trying to double the Cape, and that the third vessel (a brig) was standing down for the Roads. The first mentioned brig showed nine *ports* a side. From all these circumstances I thought best to have Fort Norris Battery manned, which was immediately done by Captain Johnson. I also ordered out the two volunteer companies. to make discoveries around the town, and the Artillery to support the guns and protect the beach; which orders were promptly executed, and we stood in readiness during the night. At daylight the schooner lay at anchor and appeared to be making no preparations to communicate with us; I then ordered a shot to be fired at a little distance from her, when she sent a boat ashore with her Captain, Supercargo, and Interpreter. She reported herself the Joseph, from Havana, had been three months on the coast trading, but *not for slaves*, had one gun and twenty-three men. Also, that the brig was a patriotic brig in chase of her, and that through fear she had taken shelter under our guns. The Captain wished a supply of wood and water; but I told him I knew him to be engaged in the slave trade, and that though we did not pretend to attempt suppressing this trade, we would not aid it, and that I allowed him one hour, and one only, to get out of the reach of our guns. He was very punctual, and I believe before his hour.”

Speaking of the celebration of the Fourth of July in the Colony, under date of the 15th July, Mr. Cary remarks—

“The companies observed strictly the orders of the day, which I think were so arranged as to entitle the officers who drew them up to credit. Upon the whole, I am obliged to say, that I have never seen the American Independence celebrated with so much spirit and propriety since the existence of the Colony; the guns being all mounted and painted, and previously arranged for the purpose, added very much to the grand salute. Two dinners were given, one by the Independent Volunteer Company, and one by Captain Devany.”

To the Secretary of the Society, July 19th, Mr. Cary writes—

“I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, forwarded by Captain Chase of Providence, also your Report and the Repository, directed to Mr. Ashmun, but owing to his absence, they have fallen into my hands; and permit me to say, that these communications are read with pleasure, and that nothing affords more joy to the Colony, than to hear of the prosperity of the Colonization Society, and that you have some hopes of aid from the General Government, which makes us more desirous to enlarge our habitation and extend the borders of the Colony.

“I must say, from the flattering prospects of your Society, I feel myself very much at a loss how to proceed, in the absence of Mr. Ashmun, with regard to making provisions for the reception of a large number of Emigrants, which appears to be indispensably necessary. Therefore, after receiving your communication, we conceived the following to be the most safe and prudent course. *First*, to make arrangements to have erected at Millsburg, houses to answer as receptacles sufficient to shelter from one hundred and fifty to two hundred persons. I have therefore extended the duties of Mr. Benson so as to embrace that object. I was led to this course from the following considerations. *First*, from the productiveness of the Millsburg lands and the fewness of their inhabitants. I know if Mr. Ashmun were present, it would be a principal object with him to push that settlement forward with all possible speed, and that for this purpose, he would send the emigrants by the first two or three expeditions to that place. I think that those from the fresh water rivers, if carried directly after their arrival here, up

to Millsburg, would suffer very little from change of climate.—*Second*, the fertility of the land is such a temptation to the farmer, that unless he possesses laziness in its extreme degree, he cannot resist it; he must and will go to work. *Thirdly*, it is important to strengthen that settlement against any possible attack; and though we apprehend no hostilities from the natives, yet we would have each settlement strong enough to repel them.

“I am happy to say, that the health, peace and prosperity of the Colony, I think, is still advancing, and I hope that the Board of Managers may have their wishes and expectations realized to their fullest extent, with regard to the present and future prosperity of the Colony.”

July 17.—“If I could be allowed one suggestion to the Board of Managers, I would mention the importance of having here for the use of the Colony, a vessel large enough to run down as low as Cape Palmas. It would, I think, be found to save a very great expense to the Society. She might occasionally run up also to Sierra Leone.

“Until we can raise crops sufficient to supply a considerable number of new comers every year, such an arrangement as will enable us to proceed farther to the leward than we have ever done, in order to procure supplies, will be indispensably necessary; as there we can procure Indian Corn, Palm Oil, and live stock. For these, neither the slave traders nor others, give themselves much trouble. Corn can be bought there for from fifteen to twenty cents per bushel. Fifteen or twenty bushels which I bought of Captain Woodbury, I have been using instead of rice for the last two months. Besides, it can be ground into meal, and would be better than any that can be sent. Upon the supposed inquiry, will not the lands of the Colony produce Corn?—they will produce it in abundance; but with the quantity of lands appropriated at present, and the means to cultivate them, each land-holder will, I think, be able to raise but little more than may be required by his own family, and consequently will have little to dispose of to new comers.*

“Permit me to inform the Board, that proposals have been

* It has been resolved by the Board of Managers to increase the quantity of land allotted to each settler.

made by a number of very respectable citizens in Monrovia, to commence a settlement near the head of the Montserado River, which would be a kind of farming establishment; which, should it be the pleasure of the Board to approve, would be followed up with great spirit, and found to contribute largely towards increasing our crops, for the soil is very promising.”

Death of Mr. Ashmun.

We weep, for a burning and a shining light is extinguished. The Colonial Agent, Mr. Ashmun, expired at New Haven, (Con.) on the 25th of August.

Having announced this mournful event, we feel inclined to silence; for we can say nothing which will adequately represent the worth of our Friend's character, the moral sublimity of his death, or the loss which it has occasioned to that holy cause which owed so much to his exertions. A very brief and imperfect sketch of his life however, may perhaps show the necessity, and excite the desire for a more particular and extended biography; and thus contribute, in humble measure at least, to prepare the way for those powerful effects which may be confidently expected from a full and a fair exhibition of his example.

JEHUDI ASHMUN, Esq., was born of respectable and pious parents in Champlain, New York, in 1794. In childhood he was thoughtful and reserved, remarkably fond of books and extremely ambitious of literary fame. At the age of fourteen he commenced study, in preparation for college, under the instruction of the Rev. Amos Pettingill, the worthy minister of his native place, to whom we are indebted for some interesting facts in his early history. He made rapid progress, and gave promise of distinction. At this time he appears to have indulged doubts concerning the truth of Christianity, and intent upon the accomplishment of selfish purposes, was regardless alike of the service and the honour of God.

But it pleased God to show him the glory of his perfections,

and to make him tremble before the power, the justice, and the goodness, which he had offended. In view of his sins, he felt the worth of Christ's Atonement, and was astonished that he had so long been insensible to his criminality and his danger, and utterly neglected the only means of salvation. When subdued by the truth and the grace of God, the vividness of his own impressions led him to believe that it would be easy to produce religious conviction in the minds of others, but having attempted to do this, he returned, like Melancthon, from the effort, grieved and disappointed. He no longer trusted in his abilities, and well nigh despaired of salvation. He was humbled; but the evidences of his faith soon became clearer to himself and to others, and he publicly professed his hope in the Saviour of the World. Henceforth, until his death, his belief in the great doctrines of Christianity appears to have been unwavering; and to exemplify their spirit and extend their influence, was deemed by him the noblest object of life.

Having pursued his studies with high reputation, both at Burlington and Middlebury Colleges, he graduated at the former in 1816, and without delay prepared himself for the ministry, and was soon elected a Professor in the Theological Seminary at Bangor, Maine. Owing to peculiar circumstances, his connection with this Institution was of short duration, though he ever remembered with devout gratitude, the deep religious interest which was excited by his preaching and his labours. After leaving the Bangor Seminary, he resided for some time in the District of Columbia, where he became a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church; conducted the editorial department of the Theological Repertory, and published his *Memoirs of the Rev. Samuel Bacon*, the earliest martyr in the cause of the Colonization Society; a work which exhibited unequivocal evidences both of talent and piety, and which thousands would have read with interest and advantage had they been informed of its merits.— Among the various subjects which at this time occupied his thoughts, was that of establishing a monthly journal for the American Colonization Society, the plan of which was matured, and the first number published. Sufficient patronage, however, was wanting to sustain it, and the work failed.

Thus did the Almighty conduct our Friend by unexpected

events to a situation, from which Africa presented claims to his services in a light and with a force which were well nigh irresistible. By writing the life of Bacon, and becoming familiar with the object and proceedings of the Colonization Society, the miseries of Africa were disclosed before him, and his spirit was stirred within him at the sight. He embarked for the Colony in the Brig Strong, June 19th, 1822, and arrived at Cape Montserado on the 8th of August. He assumed the Agency at the most critical period in the history of the Colony, shortly after the little band of settlers had resolved at all hazards to retain possession of Montserado, and when both the previous Agents were on their passage to the United States. The difficulties of the Colony, and the extraordinary talent and energy evinced by the departed, under circumstances most trying to humanity, are justly and impressively described in the following passage from the very able Sermon delivered at his Funeral, by the Rev. Leonard Bacon.

“He found them almost without houses to protect themselves from the rains of their inclement season, which was then at its height, much less able to afford shelter for the new emigrants who had accompanied him. He found the establishment just ready to sink in disorder and dismay. The settlers were almost defenceless. The native princes, who had sold them the territory with the treacherous intention that they should not settle there, were threatening to destroy them, and were forming combinations for that purpose. In such an emergency it was, that he came to a work entirely new. He had been educated for the work of preaching the gospel. He had been a teacher in a literary institution. He was still a young man. And now he had come to place himself at the head of an unorganized, feeble, heterogeneous community. He was to act the Legislator;—he was to form and put in operation, a system of government; he was to sway the minds of this unformed mass of human beings, and mould them into unity; he was to make them freemen, and habituate them to the business of governing themselves. At the same time he must act the Soldier;—he must rouse in his little flock of once degraded men, the spirit of manhood and the enthusiasm of self-defence, and he must head them in the conflict. He must act the Engineer;—he must lay out the fortifications

of his little city, and superintend their hasty construction; he must take care that the very dwellings—even the temporary huts and shelters of the people—are constructed with reference to security from the enemy, and facility of defence in an assault. All this must be commenced at once, for delay was ruin. And just as all this was commencing, the fever which attacks almost every man on his first arrival from a temperate to a tropical climate, attacked him and the fifty emigrants who had come with him, with uncommon violence. They were all sick—sick without a physician—sick without any proper shelter from the rains—sick almost without medicines. His own wife, among others, was soon carried to the grave. But for him, and for all, there was no time to relax their efforts. Even in sickness and distress, there could be no respite. Their works must go on; for, daily and nightly, they were expecting that an army of savages would be upon them. While prostrated by disease, in the lucid intervals between the returns of delirium, our friend was compelled to rise from his sick bed, to inspect the condition and progress of these operations, to receive reports, to give out orders, to reanimate the weary and desponding, and to superintend all the affairs of this dismayed and distressed community. All this he did; and when at last the fever had left him in extreme debility, and he was just beginning to recover strength, the danger which they had been so long apprehending, came. About three months after his arrival, when their defences had been only partially completed, and when their entire effective force was thirty-five men and boys, they were attacked at the dawn of day by a force of at least eight hundred armed savages. They were taken by surprise, and the enemy were almost in the midst of them before the alarm was given. By an effort of desperate valor, directed by the extraordinary self-possession and energy of our departed friend, the enemy were driven off, and the settlement on which were suspended so many hopes of humanity and religion was delivered. A few days afterwards, while the wounded were still helpless, and the well were exhausted with constant fatigue and watching and alarm, the enemy returned with redoubled numbers and redoubled rage for their destruction; and again, by a valour and energy which would do honour

to the history of any man or any people, they were repulsed, and utterly defeated.

“I have thus described the commencement of his labours and sufferings in Africa, because there is no other way in which I could so well describe his character: inasmuch as it is only by what a man has done, that we can ever distinctly understand what he has been. And what sort of character it was that could act thus in circumstances such as these, it is not difficult to divine. Let me say then, that the same energy, the same self-possession and promptitude, the same exhaustless diligence, the same vigor and quickness of intellectual power, the same courage amid difficulties and dangers, have been exhibited in all his labours there. The establishment which he found on the brink of extinction, he left in prosperity and peace. The little colony which he found defenceless, weak and trembling with dismay, he left so strengthened, as to be safe against any probable attack by land or sea. The people whom he began to rule when they were few, unorganized, and disunited, he has successfully trained to habits of discipline, and taught to enjoy the blessings of rational liberty and real independence. And how well he has governed that people, how happy he has made them, how he has drawn their affections round him, their grief at his departure can testify. One of their own number, in whose hands our friend, on leaving the colony, placed the administration of affairs, thus speaks of the occasion of his embarkation for his native country. ‘The Colonial Agent, went on board the brig *Doris*, March 26, 1828, escorted by three companies of the military, and when taking leave he delivered a short address which was truly affecting. Never, I suppose were greater tokens of respect shown by any community on taking leave of their head. At least two-thirds of the inhabitants of Monrovia, men, women and children, were out on this occasion; and nearly all parted from him with tears. In my opinion; the hope of his return in a few months, alone enabled them to give him up. He is indeed dear to this people, and it will be a joyful day when we are permitted again to see him.’ Ah that day! What grief will be theirs, when they learn that they shall see his face no more.”

When we consider the small number and undisciplined cha-

rafter of the colonists, the actual sickness of many of them, their almost defehceless condition, the strength of the combination against them, and the resolution with which it was brought to act for their destruction; when we recollect, that during all the preparations for an attack, Mr. Ashmun was scarcely able to rise from his bed, yet that every arrangement must be made by him, and indeed most measures executed under his own eye, we cannot indeed fail to admire the directing skill and energy by which the settlers were enabled to repel successfully and even triumphantly the repeated assaults of the barbarians. It is our candid opinion, that the courage and ability exhibited by the late Colonial Agent in the contest described in the preceding extract, have very seldom, if ever, been surpassed. The result established his character among all the neighbouring tribes, and made his name a terror to the chiefs who would gladly have violated their solemn engagements could they have been sustained by any reasonable hope of plunder. But in the 'single white man' on the Cape, they saw a power with which they dared not trifle; which controlled by justice, held conscience as an ally even in treacherous bosoms; and thus weakened its enemies while they knew it not, and frustrated their schemes as by spiritual agency. It was a power which they not only feared, but respected. In the presence of that white man, who at the head of a little band, untrained to war, had withstood their furious onset, and filled the hearts of several hundreds of them with dismay, they felt the influences of christian kindness; saw manifested principles of moral power, to which they were before strangers; which must prove firm ground for confidence and the safeguard of the good, but which indignantly rebuked every species of falsehood and crime. They observed that these principles had an unchangeableness of character, which mere regard to expediency could not produce; and were told of that Omnipotent Father, in whose revelation they are inculcated, and who requires his creatures to discern and to imitate (at least to aim at imitating) the rectitude and beneficence of his own perfect character.

It is indeed our conviction, that among the various means which Providence has been pleased to select and employ for the security and improvement of our infant Colony, whether we look at its internal arrangements or external relations, none,

perhaps, has been more efficacious than the elevated Christian principle of the Colonial Agent.

To exhibit distinctly, fairly, and completely, the character of our lamented friend, and to present an adequate view of his proceedings, with their results, during his residence of more than six years in Africa, would require not a few pages, but a volume. From the hour when he landed in Africa to that of his re-embarkation for his native country, he evinced a sacred devotedness to the cause for which he died. He appeared from the first, to form a clear conception of the greatness of the object to be accomplished by his labours. Hence, his plans were comprehensive and perfectly developed to his own mind, the means of accomplishing them well ascertained and arranged beforehand, so that in executing them he could readily exemplify his own maxim, that the "great key to success in business was to aim only at effects." Placed at the head of a small community formed principally of unlettered men, some of them sadly degraded by their past condition, widely separated from the Christian World, exposed to the deleterious influences of heathen tribes, just ushered into circumstances designed to prepare them for an independent political existence; it was his to create (we had almost said) their social character; to kindle in their souls public spirit and the sentiments of honourable action; to excite industry, enterprise and courage; to shape and polish the rough materials before him, and give to them order, strength, and union. He must provide for the permanent defence of the Colony. He must survey its territory, and allot to each settler the farm which he is to cultivate. By every method of economy must he direct the scanty means which the Society has entrusted to him, to meet the demands of the Colony, yet incapable of furnishing provisions for its own subsistence. Emigrants are expected, and buildings must be erected for their temporary accommodation. Public labour is required, and the expense of it can be defrayed only by the most skilful management and a scrupulous regard to the credit of the Agency. A system of government is to be set in operation; officers to be appointed and instructed in their duties; courts of justice established in which the Agent must preside; ordinances to be enacted in relation to subjects various and often new; schools to be founded;

negotiations conducted with the natives, for the purposes of trade and the extension of territory; and full and accurately detailed statements of the wants, the improvements, and the prospects of the Colony, to be frequently prepared and transmitted to the Society. But to all this complex machinery, principally depending for its movements upon the mind of the Colonial Agent, and which could not be regulated without familiar acquaintance with all its parts, must be added the entire concern for the Recaptured Africans; involving high responsibilities, and not to be conducted without a serious amount of care and labour. But to our lamented friend belonged a mind prepared for every effort of which humanity is capable; which could adapt itself to every variety of circumstances, and which, governed by motives from beyond the world, was not to be overwhelmed or broken in its powers, by the mere shocks of temporal calamity. On all occasions did he exhibit a lofty spirit of SELF-CONTROL, which no influences of earth could reach; which preserved his faculties undisturbed, unclouded, and prompt to engage with their entire energy in every work of duty;—a *versatility* of talent which enabled him to turn from one subject to another, from the severer and more perplexing to the lighter and humbler parts of business, with graceful ease; *decision*, seldom unfortunate, because resting upon clear and accurate judgments; *industry*, which reckoned moments invaluable, and was, perhaps, never exceeded; a *perseverance* which adhered with unyielding tenacity to its object; and an *activity* and *laboriousness* which permitted no one mental power to remain unemployed, but which gave constantly to each and every such power its full effect. A burning and unquenchable ardor to make the most of life, glowed within his bosom; and even the stranger could not fail to discern in the light of his features, and the deep-toned expressiveness of his language, the enthusiasm which pervaded and moved his soul. And this enthusiasm was kindled by devotion. It was *Piety*, in its genuine and sublime influences, elevating the affections to the Eternal Spirit, and deriving from holy meditation upon the Divine Mind, some resemblance of its perfection; which gave to our friend's character such dignity, worth, and power. We must leave it to another age to estimate the value of his efforts.—Something of their importance is indeed manifest to us: a pros-

perous Colony established upon sure foundations; twelve hundred individuals, once excluded from the higher blessings of existence, now freemen indeed, and blessed with all the motives which rouse the soul to useful and virtuous action; wondering heathens assembling to learn the lessons of our Faith, and catch the spirit of the Gospel; a great and enlightened nation waking its dormant energies to consummate a most holy work of charity; *these* are effects already visible, and obviously in great measure, perhaps, mainly, resulting from his exertions. But it is only by looking to the future, by indulging reflections on what with the favour of Providence our infant Colony is destined to become, by contemplating our own country as relieved from a most oppressive evil, and Africa made an empire of truth, liberty and virtue, fruitful in works of righteousness and joyful in christian hope, that we form even a faint conception of the importance of what the deceased has done, or the loss which both Humanity and Religion have sustained by his death.

But however dark, in this event, may appear the ways of Providence, their wisdom and benevolence is not to be questioned. And we trust as our friend did not live, so he has not died in vain. Those who stood by his death-bed can never forget the moral sublimity of the scene. He survived but fifteen days after his arrival at New Haven, and these were days of great bodily weakness and occasionally of distress; but his soul preserved a majestic tranquillity and clearness, gathering brightness and purity as he approached the grave, from the light of that world which he was so soon to enter. His sufferings appeared to be well nigh forgotten, while his duties were constantly remembered. To expressions of human applause or even of approbation, he would not willingly listen, and with profound humility he remarked, "I do not know of any such thing as self-righteousness; I can rely only on the righteousness of Christ." Soon after his arrival, he expressed a strong desire, if it might be the will of God, to return to Africa; but subsequently, seemed only anxious to finish his work and have his spirit prepared for the great transition. Indeed, for several days, his remarkable patience, his entire resignation, his deep self-abasement, his affecting devotion, and his holy magnanimity, astonished the beholders and they felt themselves in the presence of one who

could adopt the language of Paul, "none of these things move me; for I am ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand." On the last day of his life, while the writer of this sustained him as he sat up, the perspiration flowing from his pallid brow and every feature expressing death, he offered up his last supplication in terms most solemn and affecting. A few words uttered with perfect distinctness have been preserved.

Prayer.—"O my Heavenly Father, look mercifully upon thy afflicted servant, and do not lay upon him that which through weakness he is unable to bear, but let thy grace be sufficient for him. May he desire communion with thee above all other blessings. Bless my friend here present; keep him in thy service, and graciously reward him for all his kindness. O bless all those who have shown a tender concern for me in this place, and all my relatives and friends, and let them never come into condemnation. O bless the Colony and that poor people among whom I have laboured. Grant to me, O merciful Father, saving faith, sanctifying faith, and glorify thy great name in my eternal salvation. Grant these blessings, O God of Grace, for the Redeemer's sake, who suffered for us, and to thee shall praise be given, through all eternity, through all eternity. Amen! Amen!"

During the evening of his departure he conversed with several gentlemen who visited him, gave instructions concerning an African lad rescued by him from pirates, and who had accompanied him on his voyage, and neglected nothing which seemed to demand his attention. Just before twelve he sat up, made one or two requests and when reclined again upon his pillow, almost instantly slept in his Saviour. Not more gently does childhood sink to rest, or daylight fade from heaven. Not more simply and majestically does the sun finish his course, when he goes down amid the brightness of a cloudless sky.

Blessed be God; the example of our friend survives him, and shall survive him, until the end of time. Thousands shall be excited by it to apply themselves to the holy work of Africa's regeneration; and when this shall be accomplished, when a free,

an enlightened, and christian people, shall cover that continent, now buried in darkness and in crime, the name of ASHMUN, shall be a word everywhere familiar, even to infant lips; a name, loved, admired, and venerated, while the coloured race exists; or a human voice is heard in the dwellings of Africa.



Pecuniary Wants of the Society.

It will be absolutely impossible for the Board of Managers to effect the important purpose of despatching a vessel with emigrants to the Colony this Autumn, unless they shall soon be favoured with more liberal contributions. Applications for a passage are almost daily received from respectable coloured persons, which cannot, without increased means, be satisfactorily answered. Every Auxiliary Society, and all our friends, are then, at this time, earnestly appealed to for that aid, without which, many now waiting to embark, our own hopes, and public expectation, must be greatly disappointed.



Colonial Agent.

We have the pleasure to announce the fact, that Dr. RICHARD RANDALL of this City, a highly respected member of the Board of Managers, has been elected to succeed the late Mr. Ashmun in the Colonial Agency at Liberia. He is expected very shortly to embark for the Colony, and enter without delay upon the arduous duty of his station, and we fervently pray that a good Providence may be his safeguard, and preserve him for eminent usefulness among those over whom he has been called to preside.



Note.

We are compelled for want of room, to postpone several articles, with the usual list of Donations, to our next number.



For use in Library only

I-7 v.4

African Repository and Colonial Journal

Princeton Theological Seminary-Speer Library



1 1012 00307 1968